

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 W

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R 201550Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2000

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NAPO

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN WORLD SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
IN BERLIN

REF: USBERLIN 283

1. PENDULUM HAS SWUNG AGAIN, AND IT NOW APPEARS THAT SOVIETS, GDR AND POLAD WILL BOYCOTT SPEED SKATING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BERLIN NEXT MONTH. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ TOLD ALLIED COMMANDANTS FEBRUARY 18 THAT SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL SHARKOV HAD STATED FLATLY SOVIET SKATERS WOULD NOT COME. OPTIMISM REPORTED BY LOCAL PRESS LAST WEEK FROM INNSBRUECK HAS ALSO EVAPORATED WITH PASSAGE OF DEADLINE FOR NATIONAL SPEED SKATING ORGANIZATIONS TO CONFIRM PARTICIPATION. SWISS SECRETARY GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL SPEED SKATING UNION (ISU) IS QUOTED AS SAYING "I AM VERY SURPRISED. JUST A FEW DAYS AGO AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES THERE WAS NO TALK OF A BERLIN BOYCOTT. IT'S NOW A CLEAR POLITICAL AFFRONT AGAINST BERLIN."

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2. DESPITE EAST BLOC BOYCOTT, ORGANIZERS OF WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIP EXPECT 48 SKATERS FROM TEN NATIONS  
INCLUDING PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO COMPETE MARCH  
6-7. EXPECTATION IS THAT U.S. OLYMPIC STARS WILL  
CARRY OFF BEAR'S SHARE OF MEDALS AND THAT ABSENT  
EAST BLOC STATES WILL BE PENALIZED UNDER ISU RULES BY  
BEING PERMITTED TO ENTER ONLY ONE INSTEAD OF FOUR SKATERS  
EACH IN NEXT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. GEORGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, BOYCOTTS, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS, OLYMPIC GAMES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976USBERL00328  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** D760065-0559  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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